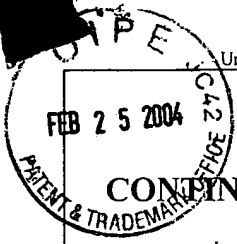


2-26-04

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
**Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop RCE
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Application Number	10/049,173
Filing Date	February 8, 2002
First Named Inventor	Thomas BAYER
Art Unit	3681
Examiner Name	Roger Pang
Attorney Docket Number	BAYER - 3 (PCT)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. [Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114]
- a. ☒ Previously submitted
 - i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on January 26, 2004.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other Petition under Rule 136(a) and Rule 17(a) (3) and check for \$530.00
2. [Miscellaneous]
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months: Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. [Fees] The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 03-2468.
 - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
- WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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MAR 02 2004

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

GROUP 3600

Name (Print/Type)	Edward R. Freedman	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	26,048
Signature	<i>Edward R. Freedman</i>	Date	2/25/04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 382375703 US

Date of Deposit: February 25, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Maria Guastella
Maria Guastella